

STAT

ER 60-8583

2 NOV 1960

Mr. Charles Edison

[Redacted]

Dear Mr. Edison:

In Mr. Dulles' absence from Washington, I would like to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of 2 November and for the enclosed prospectus, "Young Americans for Freedom."

When Mr. Dulles returns to his office, this will be brought to his attention.

Sincerely,

Signed

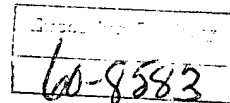
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Assistant to the Director

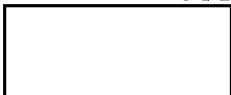
O/DCI, [Redacted] bak(4 Nov. 60)

Distribution:

- Orig. - Addressee
- 1 - AAB w/basic & encl. for hold file
- ✓ 1 - ER via reading



CHARLES EDISON



November 2, 1960

Honorable Allen W. Dulles  
Central Intelligence Agency  
2430 E Street  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

You will find enclosed a brief prospectus which has just been issued by YOUNG AMERICANS FOR FREEDOM. I commend it to you for your sympathetic reading.


YOUNG AMERICANS FOR FREEDOM was organized at a Conference held in Sharon, Connecticut early last month by a group of young men and women from some 44 colleges and universities. These young people met together to found an organization which will stimulate and mobilize the conservative spirit among America's youth toward constructive action in the political and social arena. I firmly believe that, given the wherewithal, these young people can make a substantial and valuable impact on the Nation and the times.

It is to the question of moral support to which I address myself. Americans of my generation do not have much to be proud of. Although many of us have fought the good fight, we have neither succeeded in stemming the encroachments of socialism and federal control nor the creeping and concurrent cancer of national demoralization. If our Nation is to be saved and kept along the road outlined by the Founding Fathers, it is the young people of America who must do it. The very least we can do is to help them in every way we can.

The Officers and Directors of YOUNG AMERICANS FOR FREEDOM have asked me to help enlist your moral support and encouragement. I am privileged to do so. With this letter, therefore, I cordially invite you to join with me as a member of the National Advisory Committee of YOUNG AMERICANS FOR FREEDOM by completing the enclosed form. Your reply should be sent to the National Headquarters of YOUNG AMERICANS FOR FREEDOM.

I thank you for your consideration and hope that we may count on your help.

Sincerely yours,

  
Charles Edison

Hon. Charles Edison  
363 Lexington Avenue  
New York 16, New York

I am happy to join with you in forming the National Advisory  
Board of Young Americans For Freedom.

NAME

(Please print)

ADDRESS

STATE

ZONE

CITY

SIGNATURE

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# **YOUNG AMERICANS FOR FREEDOM**

THE NEED

THE CONFERENCE

THE SHARON STATEMENT

THE FUTURE

THE LEADERS

## THE NEED

Americans stand at a crossroads today, and face a question of immense importance. Shall they retain their heritage of freedom—a heritage made possible through the observance of limited government, private enterprise, and a morality based on eternal truths and principles? Or shall they turn to one of the various systems of collectivism—systems which deny morality and truth, systems which have destroyed the freedom of peoples throughout the world?

The answer lies with the youth of America. It is the youth who must shoulder the burdens imposed by the mistakes of the past, and it is the youth who will be responsible for the future. With the very survival of their nation and their freedom at stake, the youth of America must participate more than ever before in the political life of their nation.

As we look at America today, and particularly at its young people, we note the resurgence of an active and articulate Conservatism. The collectivisms of an earlier day—disguised as “liberalism,” and implemented in the New Deal, the Fair Deal and the Square Deal—have lost their lustre and attraction. Only the diehards, the misinformed and the blind continue to follow those banners today.

Today's students and young people are rebelling against the uniformity, the false security, the infringements upon their liberty which all collectivist systems demand. The new youth of America recognize that collectivism is alien to the heritage of the West, and they are looking for ways to express their Conservatism in direct political action.

It was to provide the youth of America with such a means of Conservative action that the Sharon Conference was called and Young Americans For Freedom established.

## THE SHARON CONFERENCE

Young Americans For Freedom was born at a national conference of Conservative student and youth leaders, held in Sharon, Connecticut, on September 9-11, 1960. Preliminary arrangements had been made by an Interim Committee of thirteen students from all sections of the country.

The Sharon Conference was organized and conducted entirely by youth. Its discussions, deliberations and decisions were carried out by youth. More than 100 young people, representing 44 colleges and universities and a majority of the states of the union, were in attendance.

Committees on By-Laws, nominations and the Sharon Statement were appointed. Ideas, experiences, philosophy and proposed action were submitted and discussed by panels and by the group as a whole. The tremendous organizing task was accomplished in two days, and the Conference

1) adopted the Sharon Statement,

which outlines the beliefs and purposes of Young Americans For Freedom;

2) adopted By-Laws which provided the firm organizational basis necessary for a youth group with nationwide scope and activities; and

3) elected officers and directors, representing the best of Conservative leadership among the youth of America.

## THE SHARON STATEMENT

*Adopted by  
the Young Americans for Freedom  
in conference at Sharon, Conn.,  
September 9-11, 1960*

**I**N THIS TIME of moral and political crisis, it is the responsibility of the youth of America to affirm certain eternal truths.

We, as young conservatives, believe:

That foremost among the transcendent values is the individual's use of his God-given free will, whence derives his right to be free from the restrictions of arbitrary force;

That liberty is indivisible, and that political freedom cannot long exist without economic freedom;

That the purposes of government are to protect these freedoms through the preservation of internal order, the provision of national defense, and the administration of justice;

That when government ventures beyond these rightful functions, it accumulates power which tends to diminish order and liberty;

That the Constitution of the United States is the best arrangement yet devised for empowering government to fulfill its proper role, while restraining it from the concentration and abuse of power;

That the genius of the Constitution—the division of powers—is summed up in the clause



which reserves primacy to the several states, or to the people, in those spheres not specifically delegated to the Federal Government;

That the market economy, allocating resources by the free play of supply and demand, is the single economic system compatible with the requirements of personal freedom and constitutional government, and that it is at the same time the most productive supplier of human needs;

That when government interferes with the work of the market economy, it tends to reduce the moral and physical strength of the nation; that when it takes from one man to bestow on another, it diminishes the incentive of the first, the integrity of the second, and the moral autonomy of both;

That we will be free only so long as the national sovereignty of the United States is secure; that history shows periods of freedom are rare, and can exist only when free citizens concertedly defend their rights against all enemies;

That the forces of international Communism are, at present, the greatest single threat to these liberties;

That the United States should stress victory over, rather than coexistence with, this menace; and

That American foreign policy must be judged by this criterion: does it serve the just interests of the United States?

## THE FUTURE

We have briefly outlined the background of Young Americans For Freedom—the need, the conference, the Sharon Statement and the leaders. Combined, they are the basis of a new movement which will stimulate the youth of the country toward Conservative principles and, by the same token,

mobilize American youth toward political and social action in support of these principles. *Action* is, perhaps, the key word and the underlying motivation of Young Americans For Freedom.

The primary and immediate task of Young Americans For Freedom is to enlist members from every campus and from every community. Through the enlistment of membership, chapters will be organized on the campus and in the community. Their programs will be developed under local conditions and toward achievement of local Conservative objectives. We are a grass-roots youth movement. The stimuli and the action must come from the grass-roots, rather than from the top.

The national headquarters of Young Americans For Freedom, under the direction of our officers and directors, will assist and help implement local activities insofar as is possible. From time to time, specific national objectives will be formulated and the national membership and local chapters will be asked to cooperate. The times and the issues at stake will develop our program and guide the future activities of Young Americans For Freedom. The one major objective of the organization will be to do all within our power—through youth action—to realize the great principles outlined in the Sharon Statement.

To this end, we call on all young Americans who support the Sharon Statement, and the historic principles upon which it is based, to join with us and work with us so that we may accept our share in the great responsibilities which face our nation today.

**Chairman**

ROBERT M. SCHUCHMAN  
YALE LAW SCHOOL

**National Director**

DOUGLAS CADDY  
CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK

**Regional Chairmen**

**Northeast**

RICHARD COWAN  
YALE UNIVERSITY

**Midwest**

ROBERT CROLL  
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

**Central Atlantic**

ROBERT HARLEY  
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

**Southwest**

JAMES KOLBE  
PATAGONIA, ARIZONA

**South**

GEORGE GAINES  
TULANE UNIVERSITY

**West**

RICHARD NOBLE  
STANFORD UNIVERSITY

**Directors**

JAMES ABSTINE  
INDIANA UNIVERSITY

WILLIAM MADDEN  
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HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

LEE EDWARDS  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

HOWARD PHILLIPS  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

DAVID FRANKE  
NEW SCHOOL FOR  
SOCIAL RESEARCH

WILLIAM SCHULZ  
ANTIOCH COLLEGE

HERBERT KOHLER  
KNOX COLLEGE

SCOTT STANLEY  
U. OF KANSAS LAW SCHOOL

**YOUNG AMERICANS FOR FREEDOM**

343 Lexington Avenue  
New York 16, N. Y.  
MUrray Hill 3-6862

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Dulles:

During your absence, I wrote Mr. Edison  
and thanked him for his letter of 2 November  
and the enclosure.

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

AAB  
7 Nov. 60  
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101  
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)